

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 162790
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:JCOVEY:SKG

APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0370

S E C R E T STATE 162790

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT IS

SUBJECT: RECENT ISRAELI ACTIONS ON WEST BANK

REF: (A) STATE 143727, (B) JERUSALEM 1694, (C) TEL AVIV
7989

1. APPRECIATE THE NEED TO AVOID NEEDLESSLY AGGRAVATING
ISRAELI CONCERNS ABOUT OUR INTENTIONS, AND AGREE THAT AN
OBSERVER DETERMINED TO READ THE WORST IN OUR ACTIONS MIGHT
INTERPRET A SERIES OF DEMARCHES AS PART OF SOME LARGER
STRATEGY. THE ISSUES YOU MENTION WILL NOT GO AWAY, HOWEVER,
NOR IS THERE LIKELY TO BE A "GOOD" TIME TO RAISE ANY OF THEM.
THESE ISSUES ARE ABIDING IRRITANTS IN OUR BILATERAL RELA-
TIONSHIP, AND IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT ANY SHORT-TERM DEVELOP-
MENTS IN THE PEACE PROCESS WOULD MUCH AFFECT THE DEGREE OF

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 162790

ENTHUSIASM WITH WHICH THE ISRAELIS WILL CONTEMPLATE THEM.

2. IN THAT CONTEXT, YOU SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH DEMARCHE TO
WEIZMAN ON ACTIONS ON THE WEST BANK (REF (A)). IN VIEW OF
THE PARTICULARLY CONSTRUCTIVE FLEXIBILITY WEIZMAN SHOWED
DURING HIS VISIT TO THE WEST BANK JUNE 20 (REF (B)), SUG-
GEST YOU OPEN DEMARCHE WITH FOLLOWING:

-- WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THE CONSTRUCTIVE MEASURES TAKEN ON THE WEST BANK IN RECENT DAYS TO ENCOURAGE ARAB ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND TO STRENGTHEN ARAB CONFIDENCE IN ISRAEL'S LONG-TERM INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO ENCOURAGING AUTONOMY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY. IN PARTICULAR, WE ARE PLEASED TO SEE THE APPROVAL OF EXPANDED ELECTRIC AND WATER SYSTEMS IN MAJOR WEST BANK TOWNS, THE LIMITS SET ON THE OCCUPATION FORCES' IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR MAINTENANCE OF CIVIL ORDER AND SECURITY, AND INDICATIONS THAT ARAB LAND WOULD NOT BE EXPROPRIATED FOR THE EXPANSION OF SETTLEMENTS.

-- IN THIS REGARD, THE DISCIPLINING OF THE MILITARY GOVERNORS OVER THE INCIDENT IN WHICH STUDENTS WERE INJURED AT BEIT JALA HAS BEEN WIDELY NOTED AND WELCOMED AS A POSITIVE STEP.

-- AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT...(TALKING POINTS PARA 5 REF (A))... VANCE

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NNN

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